



United States Attorney's Office  
District of Columbia

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## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Wisconsin Man Sent to Prison for Distributing and Possessing Child Pornography**

WASHINGTON— Michael M. Monzel, a 55-year-old Wisconsin man, was sentenced in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia before the Honorable Judge Gladys Kessler on Friday, May 19, 2010, to 120 months of incarceration, followed by ten years of supervised release, for distributing and possessing child pornography. U.S. Attorney Ronald C. Machen Jr., Shawn Henry, Assistant Director in Charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) Washington Field Office and Metropolitan Police Department Chief Cathy Lanier announced today. Monzel was indicted on September 24, 2009, and, following the filing of a superseding information, entered his guilty plea on December 10, 2009.

According to the Statement of the Offense filed with the court, in the summer of 2009, a member of the FBI/MPD Child Exploitation Task Force, working in an undercover capacity in the District of Columbia, "met" the defendant on line, who at the time was a practicing nurse anesthetist, in a chat room frequented by individuals who have a sexual interest in prepubescent children. Shortly after, they began an on-line conversation. During the course of that conversation, the defendant said that he frequently molested a two-year-old girl. Also during the course of that conversation, the defendant sent to the undercover officer two images depicting children engaged in sexually explicit conduct.

Over the course of the next few months, the undercover officer and the defendant had additional on-line conversations. During the course of those conversations, the defendant sent to the undercover officer additional images of prepubescent children engaged in sexually explicit conduct with adults, including a video of an adult male molesting a female child under the age of five.

On September 30, 2009, the defendant was arrested at his home in Wisconsin. At the time of his arrest, a search warrant issued by a U.S. District Magistrate Judge in the Western District of Wisconsin was also executed. Among the items recovered during the search, which were in the defendant's possession, were two computers, a CPU tower, two flash drives, two scan disks and multiple DVDs and CDs. These memory devices contained over 800 images of children engaged in sexually explicit conduct.

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood and the District of Columbia MPD/FBI Child Exploitation Task Force. In February 2006, the Attorney General created Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from online

exploitation and abuse. Led by the U.S. Attorney's Offices, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit [www.projectsafechildhood.gov](http://www.projectsafechildhood.gov).

In announcing the sentence, U.S. Attorney Machen, FBI Assistant Director in Charge Henry and MPD Chief Lanier praised the outstanding investigative work of Metropolitan Police Detective Timothy Palchak and FBI Special Agents who are members of the FBI/MPD Child Exploitation Task Force, as well as other FBI agents and local law enforcement officers in Wisconsin who provided assistance in the case. They also thanked Assistant United States Attorney Laura Przybylinski of the Western District of Wisconsin for her assistance as well as Paralegal Specialist Teesha Tobias and Legal Assistant Priscilla Hutson who worked on this matter. Finally, they commended Assistant United States Attorney Daria J. Zane who investigated and prosecuted this case.